



## News Release

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### **Workers at St. Anthony's Woodmaster Inc. eligible for federal aid**

INDIANAPOLIS (June 23, 2006) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has ruled that former employees of St. Anthony's Woodmaster Inc. are eligible to receive federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released. A company official filed a petition on behalf of the workers on May 12, 2006.

The Department of Labor investigation revealed that employment at the Woodmaster Inc. declined while the company has increased their imports of curio cabinets during the relevant period. Consequently, workers at the St. Anthony plant qualified for TAA benefits and the findings were certified on May 19, 2006. With the ruling, any employee who has been or will be totally or partially separated from employment on or after April 27, 2005 through May 19, 2008 is eligible to apply for adjustment assistance.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

Eligible parties may contact the Evansville WorkOne at (812) 424-4473, or any WorkOne Center for more information.

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